



Sheridan Region

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Regional Fisheries Supervisor:

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Kathy Boyles

Clerical Specialists:

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Stephanie Bomar

Game Wardens:

Dayton: Dustin Shorma
Sheridan: Bruce Scigliano
Buffalo: Jim Seeman
Kaycee: Cody Bish
N. Gillette: Brooke Weaver
S. Gillette: Dustin Kirsch
Moorcroft: J.D. Davis
Sheridan: Ryan Bagley
Shieridan: Luke May
Investigator: Daniel Beach
Damage Tech: Cody Schoonover

Public Information Specialist:

Bud Stewart

Wildlife Biologists :

Wildlife Management Coordinator:
Lynn Jahnke
Sheridan: Tim Thomas
Buffalo: Dan Thiele
Gillette: Erika Peckham
Terrestrial Habitat: Todd Caltrider

PLPW Program :

Coordinator: Troy Tobiasson
Technician: Dan Thompson

Fish Biologists:

Bill Bradshaw
Andrew Nikirk
Aquatic Habitat: Travis Cundy

Habitat and Access Coordinator:

Seth Roseberry

Aquatic Invasive Species:

Mike Locatelli

Story Fish Hatchery:

Superintendent: Steve Diekema
Senior Fish Culturist: Brad Hughes
Culturist: Jennifer Meineke

Sheridan Bird Farm:

Supervisor: Darrell Meineke
Biologist: Nate Brown
Technician: Reed Moore

Wyoming Game and Fish Department

Sheridan Region

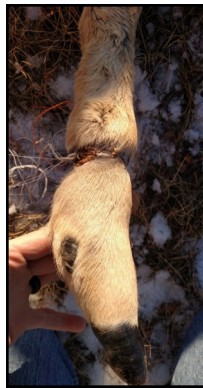
January 2017 Newsletter

Wildlife Rescues

Sheridan Region game wardens were involved in rescuing several big game animals in December. Gillette area game wardens Brooke Weaver and Dustin Kirsch were called to aid a mule deer buck that had electrical fencing wire wrapped around his antlers and one hind foot. The deer was tranquilized, the wire removed and the wound on the hind foot was treated. After a short recovery, the deer resumed normal behavior.

Dayton Game Warden Dustin Shorma was notified of a mule deer buck that had caught his antlers in a tree. Using his 12 gauge shotgun, Shorma shot one of the buck's antlers off with bird shot, freeing the buck from the tree. After a minute or two, the buck stood up and ran over to a nearby group of deer.

North Gillette Game Warden Brooke Weaver was able to get an antelope out of a fence. The antelope had tried to jump the fence, but with the deep snow was not able to jump high enough to clear the fence. The doe antelope was able to run away when Weaver got her free of the fence.



Mule deer buck with electrical fencing wrapped in it's antlers (photo above on left) and around a hind foot (photo above on right).



Mule deer buck stuck in a group of aspen trees (above). Dayton Game Warden Dustin Shorma freed the mule deer by shooting off a piece of antler that was stuck between two trees. After resting a couple minutes (photo below), the buck joined a nearby group of deer .



Doe antelope caught in fence. North Gillette Game Warden Brooke Weaver was able to get the antelope out of the fence.





Sheridan Region Monthly Newsletter

January 2017

Fish Stocked Through the Ice in Area Ponds



The Wyoming Game and Fish Department fish transportation truck at Panther Pond in Wright. Air temperatures were near zero when the fish were stocked.



North Gillette Game Warden Brooke Weaver helped stock the 500 rainbow trout in Panther Pond.



Rainbow trout are dumped into a hole cut in the ice at Panther Pond.

Gillette Wildlife Biologist Erika Peckham watches the plastic tubing carrying the fish from the stocking truck in the background. A hole approximately two foot by two foot was cut into the ice so the fish could be released into Gillette Fishing Lake.

Gillette Fishing Lake, Panther Pond in Wright and Black Hills Power and Light Pond near Osage were stocked with “retired” brood fish during late November and December. These fish typically have been used to produce eggs and sperm in the Game and Fish hatchery system for two or three years. The fish are being replaced by younger fish. The older fish are available to stock in urban ponds where anglers have easy access to them.

Panther Pond was stocked with 500 two-year-old rainbows that averaged 14 inches long. Gillette Fishing lake was stocked with 270 five-year-old brown trout and 3,400 two-year-old rainbows that were 14 inches long. Black Hills Power and Light Pond was stocked with 410 four-year-old brook trout.

These fish will provide angling opportunity this winter and next spring.





Sheridan Region Monthly Newsletter

January 2017

Wintering Elk Find Hole in Fence and Escape WHMA



Approximately 400 head of elk wintering on the Amsden Creek Wildlife Habitat Management Area (WHMA) decided to explore the neighboring ranches when temperatures dropped below -20 degrees Fahrenheit. The elk found and utilized a small hole underneath the eight foot high fence that deer typically use to move back and forth along Amsden Creek.

Sheridan Region Habitat and Access Coordinator Seth Roseberry, Wildlife Damage Technician Cody Schoonover and Dayton Game Warden Dustin Shorma were eventually able to herd all 400 elk back on to the WHMA. The hole under the fence was repaired to prevent further escape of elk onto private lands near the WHMA.

The hole under the eight-foot-high fence where 400 head of wintering elk escaped from the Amsden Creek WHMA.

Post Season Deer Classification Results



Deer classification surveys were completed in four Sheridan Region mule deer herd units in December. In the Powder River Herd Unit (HU) there were 50 bucks per 100 does and 62 fawns per 100 does, while in the Upper Powder River HU there were 49 bucks per 100 does and 72 fawns per 100 does. The Pumpkin Buttes HU had 45 bucks per 100 does and 66 fawns per 100 does. The Sheridan Region contains only the hunt areas on the east side of the North Big-horns HU where 30 bucks per 100 does and 76 fawns per 100 does were classified. The fawn ratios ranged from 49 fawns per 100 does in Hunt Area 17 to 80 fawns per 100 does in Hunt Area 24. The average fawn to doe ratios were down slightly this year compared to the ten-year average, while the average buck to doe ratios observed this year are about 19% higher than the ten-year average.

Almost the entire Sheridan G&F Region is considered one white-tailed deer herd unit. The Powder River White-tailed Deer HU had 46 bucks per 100 does and 66 fawns per 100 does.



Sheridan Region Monthly Newsletter

January 2017

Canada Geese Discarded — Edible Portions Not Removed



Canada geese dumped in a garbage dumpster in Gillette.



Canada geese spread on the ground to sort out possible violations. Eight of the geese were discarded with no attempt to remove edible portions.

South Gillette Game Warden Dustin Kirsch responded to multiple reports of Canada geese dumped outside of a local hardware store. Kirsch arrived on the scene and searched a garbage dumpster where he recovered the carcasses of 14 Canada geese. Kirsch found the breasts had only been taken from six of the 14 Canada geese, with the other eight Canada Geese being thrown away with no attempt to recover any of the edible portions of meat. A day later a suspect was identified and after being interviewed, confessed to the illegal waste of eight Canada geese and a citation was issued.

Hunter Mentor Program Allows First Time Hunters to Harvest a Deer



One of the two hunters involved in the hunter mentor program with the doe white-tailed deer he harvested.

For the past several years Buffalo Game Warden Jim Seeman and Buffalo Wildlife Biologist Dan Thiele have been involved with the hunter mentoring program through the Catholic Church in Buffalo. During the 2016 hunting season two hunters signed up and Seeman and Thiele took them hunting. Both of the first time hunters were successful in harvesting doe white-tailed deer.

After the hunting season, the church sponsors a wild game dinner (The Beast Feast) where many hunters discuss the past hunting season while enjoying great food.